

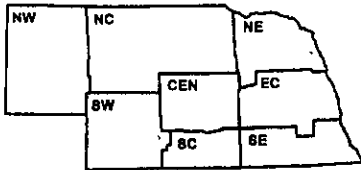
NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS



For Period Ending March 2, 1997

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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week varied from six degrees below normals in the Panhandle to one degree above in the northeast. Precipitation was widespread with amounts averaging from near a tenth of an inch to over six tenths of an inch.

GENERAL

Snow depth as of February 28th ranged from over four inches in the south central district to a trace in the northern third of the State, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Protective snow cover for the wheat crop as of the last week of February was most favorable in central, south central and southeastern counties. Most farm-stored grain was reported in good condition. Producer activities during February included equipment maintenance, attending meetings,

GENERAL (Cont.)

monitoring new calves and lambs, tax preparations and delivering grain to elevators.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 41% fair, 51% good, and 4% excellent. Some wheat growers in the west were chiseling fields to help control wind erosion. Green-up had not yet occurred but should begin within two to four weeks.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Calving activities were 19% complete with minimal calf losses being reported. Cattle condition rated 1% very poor, 1% poor, 15% fair, 77% good, and 6% excellent. Supplies of feed grains and hay were mostly adequate.

WINTER REPORTING AS OF MARCH 2, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST REPORT	LAST YEAR
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
	PERCENT										
% Cows Calved	34	13	22	15	15	21	26	16	19	4	31
SUPPLIES OF FEED GRAINS AND HAY AND FORAGE AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 1997											
Feed Grains - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
(Percent) - Short	1	6	5	2	0	1	1	3	3	1	17
- Adequate	96	94	78	95	97	92	89	97	91	91	80
- Surplus	3	0	17	3	3	7	10	0	6	8	2
Hay and Forage - Very Short	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
(Percent) - Short	2	13	36	2	25	3	5	4	14	10	8
- Adequate	97	87	53	96	73	90	94	79	81	85	89
- Surplus	1	0	9	2	1	7	1	17	4	4	3

n/a = not available.

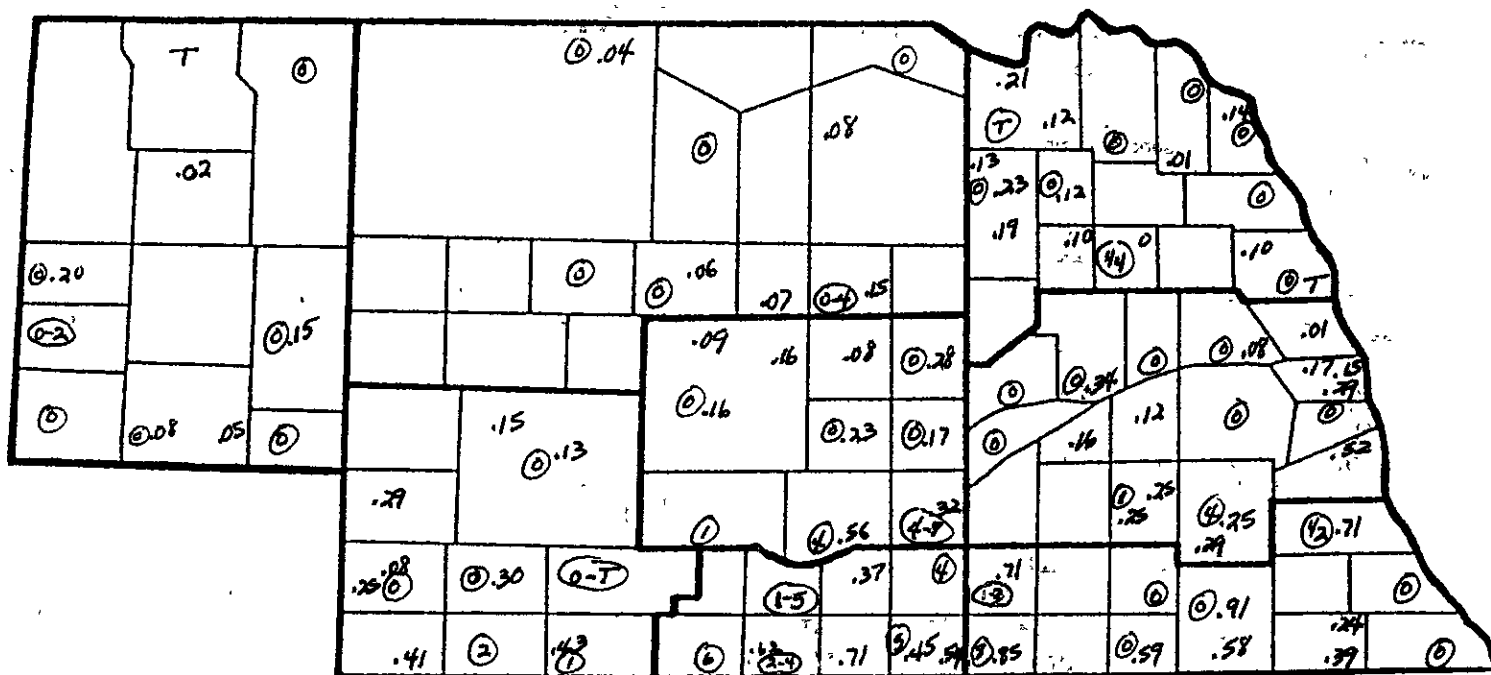
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1997



Circled numbers represent depth of snow in inches as of February 28, 1997.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1997

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	54	10	29	---	T
Scottsbluff	51	4	26	-6	.20
Sidney	43	8	24	---	.08
NC Valentine	55	4	28	0	.04
NE Norfolk	46	13	29	+1	.10
Sioux City	43	12	28	0	.14
CEN Grand Island	43	15	28	-3	.32
Ord	46	14	29	---	.08
EC Lincoln	47	10	28	-3	.25
Omaha	42	15	29	-2	.15
SW Imperial	44	13	27	---	.08
North Platte	50	10	27	-4	.13